United Nations S/PV.6018

Security Council

Sixty-third year

Provisional

6018th meeting

Thursday, 20 November 2008, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Urbina	(Costa Rica)
Members:	Belgium	Mr. Grauls
	Burkina Faso	Mr. Tiendrébéogo
	China	Mr. Liu Zhenmin
	Croatia	Mr. Jurica
	France	Mr. Ripert
	Indonesia	Mr. Natalegawa
	Italy	Mr. Mantovani
	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Mr. Ettalhi
	Panama	Mr. Arias
	Russian Federation	Mr. Shcherbak
	South Africa	Mr. Kumalo
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir John Sawers
	United States of America	Ms. DiCarlo
	Viet Nam	Mr. Hoang Chi Trung

Agenda

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Letter dated 31 October 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/703)

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08-61053 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Letter dated 31 October 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/703)

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the consideration of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Ileka (Democratic Republic of the Congo) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2008/716, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Belgium, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Italy, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Members of the Council also have before them document S/2008/703, containing a letter dated 31 October 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. Unless I hear any objection, I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Belgium, Burkina Faso, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Indonesia, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Panama, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Viet Nam

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 1843 (2008).

I shall now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements following the voting.

Mr. Kumalo (South Africa): We supported resolution 1843 (2008), which was just adopted, because we, too, feel that the situation in the eastern Congo, particularly around the city of Goma, is deteriorating very fast. The humanitarian situation is becoming more dire all the time. While we are pleased with the increase in the number of peacekeepers who will be sent to that part of the country, we wish to also underline that it goes along with the political process, which is also necessary.

We are pleased that the Secretary-General appointed former President Obasanjo to assist in the political process, and the good news is that the infrastructure for such a political process is contained in the Goma agreement and the Nairobi agreement, which are both available to the parties in the area to use to resolve the political situation.

We hope that the resolution will also act as an encouragement, saying that we want more troops to go in and assist people, but that it will also encourage the political process.

The President (*spoke in Spanish*): There are no further speakers inscribed on my list. The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council will remain seized of the matter.

The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.